

Appendix 1: Guided questionnaire for focus groups.

Attitude toward clinical decision support system:

1. What is your opinion on the information various tertiary drug information resources such as Lexicomp or Micromedex provide in terms of assessing drug-drug interactions?
2. What type of resources and how many do you utilize to assess a drug interaction?
3. What are your thoughts on using hospital software programs for identifying potential drug-drug interactions of clinical concern?

Assessment of a potential drug-drug interaction:

4. How do you assess whether a potential drug-drug interaction is of concern?
5. How does a potential drug-drug interaction of severity #1 compared to severity #3, affect your course of action in terms of dispensing a medication?
6. When you are assessing drug-drug interaction, what factors do you consider when flagging an alert to a doctor or clinical pharmacist vs. overriding it?
7. When you give a recommendation do you consider drug interactions right away in your assessment plan?
8. In a dispensary setting, do you feel you have enough time to assess a drug-drug interaction?

Alert fatigue:

9. Alert fatigue is when pharmacists become desensitized to safety alerts and as a result ignore or fail to respond appropriately to such warnings. Do you think alert fatigue is a common factor in missing potential drug-drug interactions? What may be other factors that contribute to missing potential drug-drug interactions?
10. What improvements should clinical decision support systems undergo to avoid alert fatigue?

Future implications:

11. Eventually computerized physician order entry will be implemented. What do you think is the best way we can assess drug interactions in this setting?

Personal experience:

12. Have you ever observed a patient be harmed by a dispensed drug interaction?